

REMARKS:

Claims 3, 13, 17, 20, 23 and 24 are amended; marked up versions of the amended claims are attached hereto pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c)(ii). Claims 3-10, 13-15 and 17-24 are pending in the application. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, are respectfully requested.

Applicant believes the foregoing amendments comply with requirements of form and thus may be admitted under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116(a). Alternatively, if these amendments are deemed to touch the merits, admission is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116(b). In this connection, these amendments were not earlier presented because they are in response to the matters pointed out for the first time in the Final Office Action.

Lastly, admission is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116(a) as presenting rejected claims in better form for consideration on appeal.

Claims 3, 9, 13 and 17-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Gouko (U.S. Patent No. 6,222,507). Applicant respectfully traverses the Office's rejection as to the amended claims.

The present invention is directed to a multi-monitor display device. Claim 3 is as follows:

3. A multi-monitor, comprising:
  - a first display device having a display screen;
  - a second display device having a display screen smaller than the first display device; and
  - a supporting mechanism which is mountable on an outside portion of the first display device, and supports the second display device rotatably about a first axis and a second axis intersecting the first axis,

wherein the first axis is parallel with a horizontal direction of the display screen of the first display device, and the second axis is parallel with a vertical direction of the display screen of the first display device, and

wherein the supporting mechanism includes:  
a first support member which supports the second  
display device rotatably about the first and second axes;  
and

a second support member which is mounted on at least one of a side portion and a top portion of the first display device, and supports the first support member slidably in parallel with either one of the vertical and horizontal directions of the display screen of the first display device.

(Emphasis added.)

Gouko is directed to a personal computer which displays a plurality of images and which includes a body of the personal computer, a primary display panel provided on a front side of the body, and a secondary display panel provided adjacently to the primary display panel, the secondary display panel is slid to be contained into the primary display panel or outer sides of the primary display panel by the use of rack and pinion mechanism. (Gouko, Abstract, emphasis added.) The secondary display panel is rotatable towards both upper or lower side and left or right side with respect to the primary display panel by a hinge mechanism. (Gouko, Abstract). In Gouko, the support mechanism allowing slidable movement in parallel with a horizontal direction of the display screen is on the back side of the first display device and comprises a rack and pinion mechanism. As explained in Gouko and referring to Figure 2.

"... the sub panels 3, 4 are slid to be contained into a space formed in the back side of the main panel 2 or on the back side of the main panel 2. Namely, the main panel 2 has a space between a display surface 2a and a back surface 2b thereof. As will be understood from FIG. 2, the sub panels 3 or 4 is slid to be contained into the space from right or left hand side of FIG. 2, respectively.

As shown in FIG. 2, a pinion 6 is provided on a central portion of the space while each rack 7 is integrally provided in one end of each sub panel 3 or 4. Each sub panel 3 or 4 is slid into the space to be contained therein by the combination of each rack 7 and the pinion 6, as depicted by a straight line having arrows in both ends thereof. (Emphasis added.)

Applicant respectfully suggests that Gouko cannot anticipate the claimed invention. Amended claim 3 requires a support mechanism having "a second support member which is mounted on at least one of a side portion and a top portion of the first display device, and supports the first support member slidably in parallel with either one of the vertical and horizontal directions of the display screen of the first display device." However, in Gouko the analogous structure is mounted in or on a back portion or the main display terminal. Nothing in Gouko teaches a construction in which a second support member is mounted on at least one of a side portion and a top portion as is required by amended claim 3. Since Gouko fails to teach each limitation, Gouko cannot anticipate the claimed invention.

Moreover, Gouko does not suggest a second support member mounted on the top or side portion of the first display device which supports the first support member slidably, as required by claim 3. The structure and purpose of the Gouko second support member is completely different than the present invention. In Gouko, the sub panels 3, 4 are slid to be contained into a space formed in the back side of the main panel 2 or on the back side of the main panel 2. Thus, when slid in or on the back panels, the back panels of Gouko are not viewable simultaneously with the main panel. Conversely, in the present invention, the sub panels and main panels are always viewable. Nothing in Gouko suggests such a construction. Since Gouko does not teach or suggest each claim limitation, it cannot render the claimed invention anticipated. Withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of claim 3, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Claim 9 depends upon claim 3 and is also patentable for at least the same reasons.

Claims 13 and 17-18 also contain the limitation of a second support member which is mounted or adapted to be on at least one of a side portion and a top portion of the first display device and supports the first support member slidably. Claims 13 and 17-18 are the patentable for at least the same reasons as claim 3. Withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of claims 9, 13, 17-18 as amended, are respectfully requested.

Claims 4, 6 and 14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Gouko (U.S. Patent No. 6,222,507) in view of Crossland et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,720,781). Applicant respectfully traverses the Office's rejection as to the amended claims.

Crossland is directed to:

The data processing terminal comprises a smectic liquid crystal flat panel display module which is supported by a support module. The terminal also includes a keyboard. The display module may be removed from the support module and has its own central processor, memory, control means and power source to enable it to operate independently of the support module, which contains its own central processor, memory, control means, and interface means and is mains operated. The display module may incorporate a touch sensitive overlay to permit the manipulation of the contents of the display. The support unit may incorporate a telephone interface unit.

Claims 4 and 6 depend from claim 3 either directly or through intervening claims and thus include all the limitations of claim 3. Claim 14 depends from claim 13 as thus includes all the limitations of claim 13. As noted above, nothing in Gouko teaches or suggests a support mechanism having "a second support member which is mounted on at least one of a side portion and a top portion of the first display device, and supports the first support member slidably in parallel with either one of the vertical and horizontal directions of the display screen of the first display device" as is required by claim 3 and the analogous limitation of claim 13. Likewise, Crossland does not supply the missing teachings or suggestions. Since the combination suggested by the Office does not teach or suggest every limitation, it

cannot render the claimed invention obvious. Withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of claims 4, 6 and 14, as amended, are respectfully requested.

Claims 10, 15 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Gouko (U.S. Patent No. 6,222,507) in view of Fowler et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,306,612). Claims 10, 15 and 19 have been amended. Applicant respectfully traverses the Office's rejection as to the amended claims.

Fowler is directed to:

An interface apparatus includes a base element, an interface element, and an attachment mechanism for attaching the interface element to the base element. The attachment mechanism is pivotable within a plurality of degrees of freedom. The interface element is an extensible member which is, in two of its embodiments, pivotally mounted so as to be rotatably adjustable about a pivot point with respect to a primary member. The primary member may be a base member or another display member. These members may be computer keyboards or displays, such as liquid crystal displays (LCDs), audio speakers, or the like such as are used in desk top or lap top computers and terminals.

Claim 10 depends from claim 3 either directly or through intervening claims and thus include all the limitations of claim 3. Claim 15 depends from claim 13 as thus includes all the limitations of claim 13. Claim 19 depends from claim 17 as thus includes all the limitations of claim 17. As noted above, nothing in Gouko teaches or suggests a support mechanism having "a second support member which is mounted on at least one of a side portion and a top portion of the first display device, and supports the first support member slidably in parallel with either one of the vertical and horizontal directions of the display screen of the first display device" as is required by claim 3 and the analogous limitation of claims 13 and 17. Likewise, Fowler does not supply the missing teachings or suggestions. Since the combination suggested by the Office does not teach or suggest every limitation, it cannot render the claimed invention obvious. Withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of claims 10, 15 and 19 are respectfully requested.

Claims 7 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Gouko (U.S. Patent No. 6,222,507) in view of Crossland et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,720,781) as applied to claims 1, 4, 6 above and further in view of Fowler et al.

(U.S. Patent No. 6,302,612). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection as to the amended claims.

Claims 7 and 8 depend from claim 3 and as such include all the limitations of the claim 3. As noted above, nothing in Gouko, Crossland or Fowler teaches or suggests a support mechanism having "a second support member which is mounted on at least one of a side portion and a top portion of the first display device, and supports the first support member slidably in parallel with either one of the vertical and horizontal directions of the display screen of the first display device" as is required by claim 3. Since the combination suggested by the Office does not teach or suggest every limitation, it cannot render the claimed invention obvious. Withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of claims 7 and 8, as amended, are respectfully requested.

Claim 5 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Gouko (U.S. Patent No. 6,222,507) in view of Crossland et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,720,781) as applied to claims 1, 4, above and further in view of Register (U.S. Patent No. 5,590,021). Applicant respectfully traverses the Office's rejection as to the amended claims.

Register is directed to:

An apparatus and method for a secondary display system for a computer are disclosed. A secondary display system of the present invention includes a flat panel display configured such that the display is conveniently located both during and between use thereof. The system comprises a liquid crystal display module (LCDM), a corresponding display controller connected to the LCDM via an appropriate interface, and a mounting device connected to the LCDM for mounting and positioning the LCDM in close proximity to the monitor of a computer. In a preferred embodiment, the mounting device comprises a rectangular plate, which is horizontally disposed between a chassis and a monitor of the computer, and the positioning means comprises a single axis hinge, which is connected to a front corner of the plate such that the hinge rotates on a vertical axis. One edge of the LCDM is attached to the hinge so that the LCDM may be rotated on a vertical axis. During use, the LCDM may be rotated such that its display screen is coplanar with the display screen of the monitor. Between uses, the LCDM may be rotated such that its

display screen is substantially orthogonal to the display screen of the monitor.

As noted above, nothing in Gouko or Crossland teaches or suggests a second support member which is mountable on an outside portion of the first display device and supports the first support member slidably, as required by claim 5. Register does not teach or suggest this limitation. Since the combination suggested by the Office does not teach or suggest every limitation, it cannot render the claimed invention obvious. Withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of claim 5, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Claims 20-24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Gouko in view of Milner et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,339,410), hereinafter referred to as Milner et al.

Claims 20-22 depend from claim 3 either directly or through intervening claims and thus include all the limitations of claim 3. Claim 23 depends from claim 13 as thus includes all the limitations of claim 13. Claim 24 depends from claim 17 as thus includes all the limitations of claim 17. As noted above, nothing in Gouko teaches or suggests a support mechanism having "a second support member which is mounted on at least one of a side portion and a top portion of the first display device, and supports the first support member slidably in parallel with either one of the vertical and horizontal directions of the display screen of the first display device" as is required by claim 3. Likewise, Milner does not supply the missing teachings or suggestions. Since the combination suggested by the Office does not teach or suggest every limitation, it cannot render the claimed invention obvious. Withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of claims 20-24, as amended, are respectfully requested.

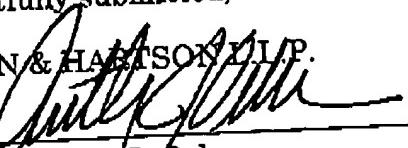
Applicant believes the foregoing amendments place the application in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles telephone number (213) 337-6700 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please  
charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-1314.

Respectfully submitted,

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Version with markings to show changes made:

3. (Twice Amended) A multi-monitor, comprising:

a first display device having a display screen;

a second display device having a display screen smaller than the first display

device; and

a supporting mechanism which is mountable on an outside portion of the first display device, and supports the second display device rotatably about a first axis and a second axis intersecting the first axis,

wherein the first axis is parallel with a horizontal direction of the display screen of the first display device, and the second axis is parallel with a vertical direction of the display screen of the first display device, and

wherein the supporting mechanism includes:

a first support member which supports the second display device rotatably about the first and second axes; and

a second support member which is [mountable on an outside] mounted on at least one of a side portion and a top portion of the first display device, and supports the first support member slidably in parallel with either one of the vertical and horizontal directions of the display screen of the first display device.

13. (Twice Amended) An auxiliary monitor comprising:

a main body having a display screen; and

a supporting mechanism adapted to be [mountable on an outside] mounted on at least one of a side portion and a top portion of a mother monitor having a display screen larger than that of the main body, and supports the main body rotatably about a first axis and a second axis intersecting the first axis;

wherein the first axis is parallel with a horizontal direction of the display screen of the mother monitor, and the second axis is parallel with a vertical direction of the display screen of the mother monitor, and

wherein the supporting mechanism includes:

a first support member which supports the main body rotatably about the first and second axes; and  
a second support member which is mountable on an outside portion of the mother monitor, and supports the first support member slidably in parallel with either one of the vertical and horizontal directions of the display screen of the mother monitor.

17. (Twice Amended) A monitor supporter comprising:  
a first support member which supports an auxiliary display device rotatably about a first axis and a second axis intersecting the first axis; and  
a second support member adapted to be [mountable on an outside] mounted on at least one of a side portion and a top portion of a mother display device having a larger display screen than that of the auxiliary display device, and supports the first support member,  
wherein the first support member is slidable on the second support member.

20. (Amended) A multi-monitor according to claim 3 wherein the first end of the second support member is adapted to be [mountable on at least two surfaces of the outside portion of the mother monitor] mounted on at least one side portion of the first display device and another end of the second support member is adapted to be mounted to one of a top portion and a bottom portion of the mother monitor.

23. (Amended) A multi-monitor according to claim 13 wherein a first end of the second support member is adapted to be [mountable on at least two surfaces of the outside portion of the mother monitor] mounted on at least one side portion of the first display device and another end of the second support member is adapted to be mounted to one of a top portion and a bottom portion of the mother monitor.

24. (Amended) A multi-monitor according to claim 17 a first end of the  
second support member is adapted to be [mountable on at least two surfaces of the  
outside portion of the mother monitor] mounted on at least one side portion of the  
first display device and another end of the second support member is adapted to be  
mounted to one of a top portion and a bottom portion of the mother monitor.